THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) The following works have been taken up for doubling of single line section/providing multiple lines on double line sections in Tamil Nadu:—

1. Madurai-Dindigul (62.05 kms)
2. Irugur-Coimbatore (17.70 kms)
3. Attipattu-Korukkupet 3rd line (18 kms)
4. Pattabiram-Tiruvallur-4th line (15.06 kms) & Tiruvallur-Arakkonam-3rd line (26.83 kms)
5. Chennai Beach-Korukkupt-3rd line (4.1 kms)
6. Chennai Beach-Attipattu-4th line (22.1 kms)

(d) No work for doubling of single railway lines in Tamil Nadu has been completed during the current financial year.

High Speed Trains

2705. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made in regard to high speed trains between Delhi and Chennai and between other major cities of the country, line-wise, so as to reduce the journey time considerably;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount allocated and spent thereon, so far;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any assistance of Japan and France has been sought in this regard to utilize their expertise in successfully running high speed trains;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) There is no plan to run High Speed Trains of more than 160

kilometre per hour maximum speed between Delhi and Chennai or between any other cities of the country. Constant efforts are however made to increase average commercial speeds.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Introduction of High Speed Trains as of now is not a priority for the Government.

(d) Ministry of Railways had posed High Speed Rail Link Project between Mumbai-Ahmedabad under Development Study Programme of Japanese Technical Copperation Programme for the year 2005-06, through the Ministry of Finance. Government have subsequently communicated to Japanese authorities that the feasibility study on the project may not be taken up in view of the change of priority of the project.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

CNG based green trains

†2706. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to run CNG based green trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this plan is only metropolitan cities;

(d) if so, the names of those cities; and

(e) to what extent Government have been successful in giving an actual shape to this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Trials are being conducted to run one Diesel Multiple Unit (DMU) with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) on Northern Railway.

(c) to (e) Its further proliferation depends on successful trials.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.